



DR. LARRY HOLLIER

# CHANCELLOR'S Notes



June 21, 2013

## LSUHSC Healthcare Heroes

An LSUHSC administrator and two faculty members were honored as CityBusiness 2013 Healthcare Heroes.

Ron Gardner was selected for his service as a Vice Chancellor at LSUHSC, Chairman of the Greater New Orleans Sports Foundation (at the helm of Super Bowl XLVII), past Chairman of the Downtown Development District, and a Federal City Executive Committee member.



Ron Gardner

Dr. Robert Barsley was recognized for his contributions to academic dentistry at the LSUHSC School of Dentistry and his forensic dental work with coroners' offices around the state identifying victims of crimes and accidents, helping to bring closure to their families and loved ones.



Dr. Bob Barsley

Dr. Frank Culicchia was honored for his work as Chair of LSUHSC's Department of Neurosurgery and his extraordinary skills as a practicing neurosurgeon.



Dr. Frank Culicchia

## LSUHSC's Hew among 8 honored nationally

Jennifer Hew, RDH, BSDH, MSHCM, FADPD, Assistant Professor in the Department of Comprehensive Dentistry and Biomaterials at the LSUHSC School of Dentistry, has been selected as a recipient of the 2013 Sunstar/RDH Award of Distinction. There are only eight recipients nationally.

Hew developed a comprehensive program to care for special needs adults and children at the Dental School. The program, which integrated this care into the curriculum in the DDS and Dental Hygiene curricula, is the first of its kind in the country. Since 2011, the program has provided 119 patient visits, with more than 85% of the costs covered.



DDS student Brandon Mack



Jenni Hew

Hew also leads the year-round, statewide Special Olympics Special Smiles Program. She recruits dental school faculty, staff, and student volunteers, as well as community dentists, and coordinates oral health screenings at athletic competitions.

Hew, a registered dental hygienist, will be honored at a ceremony at the RDH Under One Roof conference next month in Las Vegas.



The LSUHSC Summer Undergraduate Neuroscience (SUN) Program is underway. This program pairs students from high school through medical school with mentors in the Neuroscience Center to conduct research. Not only do these young students learn about careers in the health sciences, they are also exposed to opportunities and resources right here at home.

*Editor's Note: The Chancellor prefers that the content of Chancellor's Notes focuses on achievements of LSUHSC faculty, students and staff. However, in my view, the singular honor recently bestowed upon Dr. Hollier is so rare and prestigious, it is something that should be shared.*



**D**r. Larry Hollier, Chancellor of LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans, was invited to deliver the John Homans, MD Lecture at the 2013 Society for Vascular Surgery (SVS) Annual Meeting in San Francisco. Named for a charter member of the Society, the lecture was established in 1950, at the fourth annual SVS meeting. The

John Homans, MD Lecture was to be presented “from time to time by distinguished vascular surgeons.” The first John Homans, MD Lecture was presented in 1951. The Society is very selective in awarding this distinction, and very few vascular surgeons have received it. In the 63 years since the establishment of the Homan Lecture, there have only been nine. The last Homans Lecture before Dr. Hollier’s was awarded in 1995.

Dr. Hollier, who also remains a practicing vascular surgeon, chose to highlight multiple organ dysfunction syndrome (MODS.) A condition not well enough understood, MODS is one of the most common causes of death in surgical intensive care units.

MODS begins when injuries such as trauma, cardiac arrest, burns, massive infection, or shock block blood flow and set off a cascade of events resulting in too little oxygen in tissues. Uncorrected, it can progress as the body responds with chemicals unleashing exaggerated inflammation generating oxygen-free radicals that damage tissue, eventually leading to organ dysfunction and death.

While there is some research experience, in the clinical arena there has universally not been a treatment that reverses the multiple organ dysfunction syndrome. Early diagnosis and prompt treatment is of utmost importance to increase oxygen delivery as soon as possible. High-dose hyperbaric oxygen therapy has been shown to effectively and quickly reduce oxygen debt in severely injured commercial divers, leveraging the chances of recovery. Dr. Hollier urged members of the Society, young students, residents and fellows to consider research in this area to find definitive answers.

